THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Deputy Commissioner, Delhi has reported that 591 families have migrated from Punjab during the period 1.1.1988 to 15-4-1988. No other State has reported migration during this period.

(b) The Delhi Administration is providing the following relief to the genuine migrant families from Punjab:

1. Financial assistance for diet/food money @ Rs. 10/-per member/per day subject to a maximum of Rs. 1000/- per family/per month.

2. Free semi-pucca tenements/tented accommodation.

3. Free facilities of electricity, water etc.

4. Provision for ration articles at control rates.

5. Facilities for recreational activities such as library, TV set etc.

6. Assistance in the admission of migrant children in schools.

(c) The Government of Punjab provides the following facilities to the returning migrants:

(i) *Ex-gratia* grant of Rs. 5,000/- to cover initial expenses on return to the State.

(ii) Transport grant of Rs. 2500/- to cover transport expenses on return to the State.

(iii) Facility of bank loan upto Rs. 25,000/- including a subsidy component of Rs. 5000|- to be paid by the State Government to enable the returning families to start income generating activity.

(iv) Allotment of Low Income Group (LIG) house on concessional terms at the place of resettlement of family or in the event of non-availability of LIG house, grant of house rent allowance of Rs, 250|- per month.

Strategy to bring more people into the income-tax net

*34. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated some fresh strategy to bring more people, like petty shopkeepers and professionals like lawyers, doctors, small transporters, etc., into the income-tax net; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) and (b) Combating tax evasion is a continuous process and the Income-tax Department has been continually striving to bring all the persons, having taxable income, within the tax net. Systematic survey operations and collection of information from various sources and verification thereof are being undertaken for discovering potential tax payers.

Use of Modern Technology to reclaim Wastelands

*35. SHRI BASUDEV MOHAPATRA:
SHRI JAGADISH JANI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is extensively making use of conventional as well as modern technologies like remote sensing and biotechnology to reclaim country's 175 million hectares of wastelands;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether any success has been achieved in evolving sound technologies to develop crops and tree varieties in the wastelands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Statement is placed on the Table of the House (*See* below).

(c) Trials are still continuing. At this stage it is not possible to evaluate the success of these technologies.

Statement

Modern Technologies being Tried/Experimental to reclaim the Wastelands:

1. *Aerial Seeding*: Aerial Seeding was taken up in 8 States of Arunachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh from 1980 onwards. An area of 1.8 lakh ha. including re-seeded areas of about 30,000 ha. has been covered upto 1987.

2. *Remote Sensing Technology for Identification of Wastelands*: A National Wastelands Identification Project is under implementation since November, 1986 in technical collaboration with the Department of Space and Survey of India. Under this project 147 districts in 19 States have been selected. The methodology of the project envisages enlargement of remote sensed satellite imagery on 1:50,000 scale map to show wasteland areas, village boundaries and forest areas in a district. The project cost is Rs. 304 lakhs. 2711 maps out of total 2813 maps have been prepared by the end of February, 1988. These are being distributed to the State/district authorities for project planning.

3. *Technologies for wastelands development*: Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and Department of Biotechnology are developing new technologies for utilisation of wastelands and for increasing their productivity. CSIR have carried out investigations to utilise areas with problematic soils more economically with the cultivation of aromatic grasses like Palmarosa (*Cymbopogan martini-var-motia*), Lemongrass (*Cymbopogon Yexuosus*) and vetiver (*Vetiveria zizanoides*). A package of agro-technologies has been developed for 4 tree species (*Acacia nilotica, Prosopis juliflora, Pongamia pinnata* and *Terminills arjuna*) which have shown great adaptability to the problematic soils. Agro-technology has also been developed for growing mangroves. ICAR and its research institutes have developed appropriate techniques for soil and water conservation, reclamation of salt affected soils, sand dunes stabilization and Silvipastural designs.

4. *Bio-Technology*

(i) *Bio-fertilizers*: Department of Biotechnology is working on methods of improving content of soils through biofertilisers like certain species of bacteria and blue-green algae which can fix atmospheric nitrogen.

(ii) *Plant Tissue Culture*: Success has been achieved in raising plantlets of *Eucalyptus, Bamboos, Salval dora, Leucaena and Teak*, etc. by Tissue culture technique on a small scale. This technique when perfected has the potential of raising millions of seedlings of genetically superior plants.

5. *Jalshakti*: National Chemical Laboratory, Pune, has developed a super-absorbent polymer known as *Jalshakti* which has the ability to absorb, retain and release water 100 to 1000 times of its weight. It has potential application in agriculture, horticulture and forestry etc. as a seed coating, soil additive and a transplanting aid. Its trials are currenly in progress to evaluate its usefulness.

Clearance of irrigation projects in Madhya Pradesh

*36. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the irrigation projects in Madhya Pradesh for which tech-